

APPROVED: Meeting No. 06-92

ATTEST: 

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 02-92

January 21, 1992

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on January 21, 1992, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, City Clerk Sharon Gran and Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn.

Re: Worksession with
Alternative Community
Service Commission

Sally Roy, Chairperson, discussed the following matters with the Mayor and Council:

Current Status of ACSC

Ms. Roy reported that it has been a struggle over the past few years to generate a caseload in order to keep this program viable in the City. The City's program was geared to youth who have been found guilty of misdemeanors. With the increasing number of serious offenses, many of these misdemeanor cases never come before the court. In view of the significant decline in the caseload and the fact that the few cases that do exist are usually referred to Montgomery County's

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program, Ms. Roy recommended that the City's Alternative Community Service Commission be disbanded.

The commission members have worked diligently, and Ms. Roy recommended, and the Mayor and Council agreed, that the members be recognized for their contributions and given first consideration should they wish to be appointed to another City board or commission.

Recommendations for Future Activities

There was considerable discussion among commission members as to another objective for a volunteer body affiliated with the police department, culminating in the recommendation to create a youth mentor program. It was felt that there is a need in the community for a mentor program targeted to all City youth with a particular emphasis on: minority youth; youth from single-parent households; and youth identified as having special needs by the Police Department, Juvenile Services or other City or school agencies. There was also discussion as to the availability of private funding for this type of program.

Councilmember Krasnow suggested examining similar programs in other areas, and Councilmember Coyle reported that there was a recent National League of Cities program which delved into the needs of city youth and there should be some reference information available.

The Mayor and Council agreed to:

- o disband the Alternative Community Service Commission;
- o create a task force to make recommendations for a youth mentor program;
- o appoint Sally Roy to serve as chairperson of this task force and solicit members through an advertisement in Rockville Reports.

The City Manager and Police Chief will work with Ms. Roy in the development of a mission statement for the task force.

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Re: Worksession with Cultural
Arts Commission

Kenneth Lechter, Chairperson, Commission Members Charles Goldstein, Judy Greenberg, Eileen Mader, Floria McGuckian, John Moser, George Northway, Peg Sante and Marilyn Scott, and the City's art consultant, Francoise Yohalem, discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

Review of Commission Activities

During the past year, the Commission:

- o held the fifth annual "Sculpture on the Grounds" exhibition at Civic Center Park;
- o installed artwork at key outdoor locations throughout Rockville, including "Ballgame" at Dogwood Park; "Let it Go" at Rockville Municipal Swim Center; "Growing Tall" at Woodley Gardens; and "On Site" at Welsh Park;
- o completed landscaping for several artworks;
- o through the Art Acquisition Program, installed "Art Quilts" in the Council Chamber and awarded the art commission for the Boards and Commissions Room;
- o developed the 1993-1998 Art in Public Places Master Plan.

Mr. Lechter acknowledged the success of the Focus on the Arts show and expressed appreciation to Doug Breisch, Cable TV Production Supervisor, and his staff. Ideas for next year's shows are being developed with a view toward informing City residents of what the City has to offer in the Arts and the processes by which this is accomplished.

Art in Public Places Master Plan

Mr. Lechter reported that one of the major functions of the Commission over the last five years has been the implementation of the Art in Public Places Master Plan. In view of the current economic situation, the Commission recommends one neighborhood project for FY92 and no new

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projects for FY93; thus, the first five-year plan will conclude with a surplus of \$187,000. This surplus is a result of three initiatives:

1. choosing not to recommend the funding of certain potential projects because the quality of the submissions did not meet the City's high standards;
2. a sensitivity to both the actual economic realities and the public perception of priorities in times of economic recession; and
3. realization that we will reach a stability in the development of Town Center which will enable the Commission, by carrying forward this surplus, to fund major art projects in this area at a level which is justified based upon the significance of the development.

Mr. Lechter went on to state that the Commission has reviewed and approved staff's response to inquiries of the Mayor and Council during the presentation of the Art in Public Places Master Plan. In conclusion, Mr. Lechter thanked Commission member George Northway who chaired the Master Plan subcommittee.

Discussion followed regarding the Commission's recommendation to fund only one project in FY92 and no new projects in FY93. There was also an explanation as to how the current surplus was generated.

With respect to the Plan itself, Councilmember Coyle referenced the "deaccession" section, and Mr. Lechter noted that this primarily refers to works that are damaged.

Councilmember Krasnow inquired as to whether there is provision for moving pieces, such as the Monument Park artwork. Mr. Lechter responded that this has become a participatory piece and should not be moved.

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Mr. Lechter commented that a television show is planned which would feature a tour of artworks throughout the City and a detailed explanation of each. The need to provide on-site descriptions of the pieces, including the artist's conception, was emphasized by Mayor Duncan.

Discussion followed regarding the recommendation in the Plan that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to include public artwork as an element for density bonuses. Mayor Duncan and the Council requested that this recommendation be removed from the Plan prior to adoption. Alternatively, it was suggested that the Cultural Arts Commission send a memorandum to the Planning Commission requesting that, in their review of the City's Master Plan, consideration be given to a density bonus for art.

Councilmember Coyle asked if the City is monitoring the County's plans for artwork within the City. Mr. Moser advised that he has met with County officials regarding a piece which will be installed in Town Center facing North Washington Street, and the County has been responsive to City concerns.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m., to convene again in General Session at 7:30 p.m. on January 27, 1992, or at the call of the Mayor.